

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 10, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 22, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1717**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member De Leon**  
**(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Hill)**  
**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Block, Huffman, Jeffries,**  
**Lieu, Portantino, and Solorio)**  
~~(Coauthor: Senator Alquist)~~  
*(Coauthors: Senators Alquist and DeSaulnier)*

February 2, 2010

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An act to add Section 13300.7 to the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1717, as amended, De Leon. Ballot materials: electronic access.

Existing law requires elections officials to provide a registered voter with a sample ballot, voter pamphlet, directions to the nearest polling place, and other ballot materials by mail within designated timeframes before a primary or general election.

This bill would authorize county and city elections officials, if specified conditions *and deadlines* are met, to establish procedures to allow a voter to opt out of receiving his or her sample ballot and other ballot materials by mail and instead obtain them via electronic means such as e-mail or accessing them from a county's or city's Internet Web site.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1     SECTION 1. Section 13300.7 is added to the Elections Code,  
2     to read:  
3     13300.7. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, county  
4     and city elections officials may establish procedures designed to  
5     permit a voter to opt out of receiving his or her sample ballot, voter  
6     pamphlet, notice of polling place, and associated materials by mail,  
7     and instead obtain them electronically via e-mail or by accessing  
8     them on the county's or city's Internet Web site, provided that all  
9     of the following conditions are met:  
10    (a) The procedures establish a method of providing notice of  
11    and an opportunity by which a voter can notify elections officials  
12    of his or her desire to obtain ballot materials electronically in lieu  
13    of receiving them by mail.  
14    (b) The voter e-mail address or any other information provided  
15    by the voter under this section remains confidential pursuant to  
16    Section 6254.4 of the Government Code and Section 2194 of this  
17    code.  
18    (c) The procedures provide notice and opportunity for a voter  
19    who has opted out of receiving a sample ballot and other materials  
20    by mail to opt back into receiving them by mail.  
21    (d) The procedures establish a process by which a voter can  
22    apply electronically to become a vote by mail voter.  
23    (e) *A voter may only opt out of, or opt back into, receiving his*  
24    *or her sample ballot and other ballot materials by mail if the*  
25    *elections official receives the request and can process it prior to*  
26    *the statutory deadline for the mailing of those materials for the*  
27    *next election, pursuant to Section 13303. If a voter misses this*  
28    *deadline, the request shall take effect the following election.*  
29    (f) *The procedures must include a verification process to confirm*  
30    *the voter's identity, either in writing with a signature card that*  
31    *can be matched to the one on file with elections officials, or if the*  
32    *request is submitted electronically, it shall contain the voter's*

- 1 *California driver's license number, California identification*
- 2 *number, or a partial social security number.*

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